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INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

I. GENERAL

1. *Neuroscience* is devoted to the prompt publication of the results of original research on any aspect of the scientific study of the nervous system. **The type of paper most suitable for publication is that in which new observations are clearly and succinctly reported and in which an attempt is made to make the purpose and outcome of the study meaningful to scientists of other disciplines.** Detailed and/or very specialized papers will only be considered for publication if the authors have followed the latter suggestion. Since one of the chief aims is to promote communication between neuroscientists the journal will also include occasional commentaries on specific areas of neuroscience.

2. *The Editorial Board.* The international Editorial Board, which is appointed by the Publications Committee of IBRO, consists of specialists in all major branches of neuroscience. Each paper is read by at least two Editors or referees. Further opinions are sought if necessary. Papers are accepted by one of the Chief Editors acting on the advice of one or more members of the Board.

3. (a) *Papers reporting original research* are considered for publication provided that they describe **significant, new and carefully confirmed findings and that adequate experimental details are given.** Preliminary communications are not accepted. No distinction is made between short and long papers, although short papers satisfying the above criteria will probably be published more rapidly than long papers. All papers must be prepared according to the instructions given in Section II.

(b) *Commentaries* on a specific topic in neuroscience will normally be published *only following an invitation* to the author from one of the Chief Editors. Other prospective authors should obtain the agreement of a Chief Editor before submitting a manuscript. Commentaries are not exhaustive reviews but short articles (3000–10,000 words in length) intended either to draw attention to developments in a specific field for workers in other scientific disciplines, or to bring together observations over a wide area that seem to point in a new direction, or to give the author's personal views on a controversial topic, or to direct soundly based criticism at some widely held dogma or widely used technique in neuroscience. Authors should always endeavour to make their commentary understandable to neuroscientists of other disciplines.

(c) *Matters arising.* The Chief Editors have decided to introduce a new section to be called "Matters Arising". We feel that a limited amount of space in the journal ought to be available for genuine scientific comments about articles published in this journal. Such comments should be sent to any one of the Chief Editors and they should comply with the following guidelines.

Comments in the "Matters Arising" section should be no more than 1500 words long excluding references. They should be confined to important scientific points that arise out of papers previously published in *Neuroscience*. The Editors reserve the right to invite replies to such comments by the authors of the original papers. The Editors will decide when comments of this nature on any particular topic should be closed and after that no further comments on the same original article will be published.

4. Submission of a paper for *Neuroscience* will be held to imply that it represents original research not previously published (except in the form of an abstract of preliminary report), and that it is not being considered for publication elsewhere in similar form, in any language, without the consent of the editors of *Neuroscience*.

5. Manuscripts should be sent to **one** of the following Chief Editors: Prof. P. G. KOSTYUK, Department of Physiology and Biophysiology of Nerve Cells, A. A. Bogomoletz Institute of Physiology, Academy of Sciences, Ukrainian SSR, 4 Bogomoletz Street, Kiev 24, U.S.S.R.; Dr R. LLINÁS, Department of Physiology and Biophysics, New York University School of Medicine, 550 First Avenue, New York 10016, U.S.A.; Professor A. D. SMITH, Department of Pharmacology, University of Oxford, South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3QT, England.

6. Reprints of each paper can be obtained at reasonable cost by ordering on the reprint order form supplied with the proofs. Authors (from the U.S.A., Canada and Japan), may alternatively obtain free reprints if they pay a *voluntary* page charge. There are no compulsory page charges.

II. MANUSCRIPT REQUIREMENTS

1. *Form*

(a) Manuscripts should be typewritten with **double or triple spacing** throughout and with margins at least 2.5 cm wide. If possible, A4 size (206 × 294 mm) paper should be used. **Three** copies of each manuscript should be submitted to facilitate reviewing by referees. It is only necessary to send photocopies of diagrams, or rough prints of halftones, with the second and third copies. Xerox copies of photographs are not acceptable for referees.

(b) Each manuscript must have a title page which includes only the title, the authors' names, the laboratory or origin, the name and address of the person to whom proofs should be mailed, and any necessary footnotes. Original manuscript and diagrams are discarded 1 month after publication unless the Publisher is requested to return original material to the author. Corrections to the proof should be restricted to printer's errors. Substantial alterations may be charged to the author.

(c) The title should be as short as is consistent with clarity. Papers should not be numbered in series, but subtitles are accepted. A list of abbreviations used *in the text* should be put at the bottom of the title page (see 2a and 6).

(d) A running title, not to exceed 56 letter spaces, should be included on a separate sheet.

(e) Pages should be numbered in succession, the title page being page 1.

(f) Tables and figures should be on separate pages placed at the end of the manuscript. Their desired approximate locations should be indicated in the margin of the text.

(g) Footnotes to the text should be used sparingly: where they must be used their locations should be indicated by the symbols *, †, ‡, §, ‖, ¶ in that order.

(h) Greek characters should be clearly indicated.

(i) Isotopic specifications should conform to the IUPAC system [*Biochem. J.* (1975) **145**, 1–20].

(j) *Drug names should be the official or approved names*; trade names or common names may be given in brackets where the drug is first mentioned. The manufacturer's name must be given. The doses of the drugs should be given as unit weight/unit body weight, e.g. mmol/kg or mg/kg. Concentrations should be given in terms of molarity, e.g. nM or μM, or as unit weight/unit volume solution, stating whether the weight refers to the salt or the active component of the drug. The molecular weight, inclusive of water of crystallizations, should be stated if doses are given as unit weight.